

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 NEA-10 RSR-01 /157 W

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R 271148Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9670

INFO USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3444

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR MO AG

SUBJ: MOROCCAN ATTITUDE TOWARD ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY: MOROCCO OPPOSES ALGERIAN ATTEMPT TO TAKE OVER LEADERSHIP OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS; IT ALSO OPPOSED TO ALGERIAN CONCEPT OF PERMANENT CHARTER AND SECRETARIAT FOR NON-ALIGNED NATIONS; HOPES US WILL PERSUADE ITS FREINDS AMONG DELEGATES TO ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE TO SUPPORT MOROCCAN POSITION. END SUMMARY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SUMMONED ME JULY 26 TO GIVE FOLLOWING EXPOSE OF MOROCCAN ATTITUDE TOWARD SEPTEMBER NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS.

3. MOROCCO WAS ONE OF ORIGINAL FOUNDERS OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP AS IT SAW VIRTUE IN PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, DISARMAMENT, AND NONPARTICIPATION IN MILITARY BLOCS. IT HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN CREATION OF A THIRD WORLD FORCE, DESPITE UNHAPPINESS OF BOTH US AND USSR WITH SUCH DEVELOPMENT.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY USSR BEGAN POLICY OF RAPPROCHEMENT WITH NON-ALIGNED NATIONS, FINDING COMMON GROUND IN POLICIES OPPOSING IMPERIALISM, FOREIGN BASES AND RACISM. DURING  
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SECOND YEAR OF KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION US ALSO BEGAN TO

DRAW CLOSER TO NON-ALIGNED NATIONS. FINALLY, IN UN CONTEXT, TWO SUPER POWERS BEGAN RAPPROCHEMENT WITH EACH OTHER WITH ASSISTANCE OF THIRD WORLD.

5. NON, WITH DETENTE BETWEEN SUPER POWERS, ACCEPTANCE OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, AVOIDANCE OF WAR, ETC., NONALIGNED POWERS CONSIDER THEIR POLICY TO HAVE BORNE FRUIT.

6. SOME NONALIGNED NATIONS SUCH AS EGYPT HAVE LEANED TOWARD USSR, OTHERS TOWARD US; MOROCCO HAS BEEN NONALIGNED BUT MORE COOPERATIVE WITH WEST THAN EAST.

7. PROBLEM NOW IS THAT GREAT LEADERS OF NONALIGNED MOVEMENT LIKE YUGOSLAVIA, INDIA AND EGYPT NO LONGER HAVE MORAL QUALITY FOR SUCH LEADERSHIP; EGYPT IS TOO INVOLVED WITH USSR, INDIA HAS MADE WAR ON PAKISTAN AND YUGOSLAVIA NOW MORE INTERESTED IN ITS COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE THAN IN THIRD WORLD.

8. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, SAID BENHIMA, ALGERIA THINKS IT CAN TAKE OVER LEADERSHIP OF NONALIGNED NATIONS; IT IS COMPETING WITH YUGOSLAVIA AND SEEKS TO BE SPOKESMAN OF MEDITERRANEAN, MAGHREB AND AFRICAN GROUPS; IT TELLS US THAT IT HAS STABLE AND RICH REGIME AND CAN BE CONDUIT BETWEEN US AND THIRD WORLD; IT TELLS FRANCE THAT VIA ALGERIA FRANCE CAN ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIP WITH THIRD WORLD INDEPENDENT FROM GREAT POWERS.

9. ALGERIA WANTED MOROCCO AND TUNISIA TO DELAY THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY UNTIL AFTER ALGERIS CONFERENCE SO THAT ALGERIA COULD ACT AS SPOKESMAN FOR MOROCCO AND TUNISIA BEFORE EEC. MOROCCO AND TUNISIA REFUSED AND WENT AHEAD WITH THEIR OWN NEGOTIATIONS.

10. MOROCCO, SAID FONMIN, DOES NOT ACCEPT LEADERSHIP OF ANYONE; IT OPPOSES ALGERIAN IDEA OF A CHARTER AND PERMANENT ORGAN, LIKE A NONALIGNED UN, TO BE SET UP IN ALGIERS BECAUSE THIS WOULD MEAN SURE TAKEOVER BY ALGERIA OF NONALIGNED GROUP. IF US HAS ANY CLOSE FRIENDS AMONG 64 OR SO NATIONS EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALGIERS NONALIGNED CONFERENCE, MOROCCO WOULD HOPE

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US WOULD SEEK PERSUADE THOSE NATIONS SUPPORT MOROCCAN POSITION. MOROCCO HAS SENT SPECIAL EMISSARIES TO A NUMBER OF KEY COUNTRIES TO EXPLAIN MOROCCAN VIEWPOINT, TO DISCOMFORTURE OF ALGERIANS.

11. BENHIMA PREDICTED SOVIET UNION WOULD COME UNDER STRONG ATTACK IN ALGIERS, PARTICULARLY AFTER NIXON-BREZHNEV SUMMIT, AND ESPECIALLY BY ARAB NATIONS. US WOULD ALSO BE STRONGLY

ATTACKED BY ARABS, PARTICULARLY AFTER JULY 26 VETO IN UN.

12. FONMIN SAID MOROCCO SEEKS TO DE-RADICALIZE THIRD WORLD  
AND TO WORK FOR PROGRESS TOWARD INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC  
STABILITY AND PROGRESS. IT WISHES TO PRESS ALGIERS  
CONFERENCE IN THIS DIRECTION.

13. FONMIN CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT IF USG HAS ANY  
COMMENT ON ABOVE AND ON ALGIERS CONFERENCE, HE WOULD WOULD BE  
HAPPY TO RECEIVE IT.  
ROCKWELL

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